



MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the House Redistricting & Elections Committee

From: Jim Holcomb, Senior Vice President Michigan Chamber of Commerce

Subject: HB's 5085 - 5086

Date: December 6, 2011

The Michigan Chamber of Commerce strongly supports passage HBs 5085 and 5086. This important package of legislation would codify the Michigan Supreme Court's ruling in *MEA v Secretary of State* and prohibit a public employer using a payroll deduction system for collecting a portion of an employee's salary for deposit into separate segregated fund used for political purposes.

In these challenging economic times those responsible for expending government resources must be ever vigilant that monies are being directed for the public good and that taxpayer dollars are being spent in the manner most efficient. Government entities should not be engaged either directly or indirectly in the administration or funding of a public employee's political activities.

On behalf of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce we ask that you please support this important reform and ensure that public monies are not improperly misallocated to political purposes.

Please call me at 517-371-2100 if you have any questions.